HLS 17RS-439 ENGROSSED

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 58

1

BY REPRESENTATIVE PUGH

SEWERAGE: Provides that the water company for Tangipahoa Parish collect sewerage bills

AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:4169(C), relative to Sewerage District No. 1 for Tangipahoa 3 Parish; to provide relative to the collection of fees imposed by the district; to require 4 certain water system operators to collect such fees; and to provide for related 5 matters. 6 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published 7 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of 8 Louisiana. 9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 10 Section 1. R.S. 33:4169(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: 11 §4169. Collection contracts for sewerage service charges; access charges; 12 enforcement procedures for delinquent charges 13 14 C.(1) In the parish of Jefferson, any such contract as authorized in 15 Subsections A and B of this Section may be executed for a term up to twenty-five 16 years. 17 (2)(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a 18 municipality, parish, water district, or private water company operating a water 19 system serving customers in the area served by Sewerage District No. 1 for 20 Tangipahoa Parish shall collect the service charges imposed by the sewerage district

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1 from the water customers of the municipality, parish, water district, or private water 2 company. 3 (b) The governing authority of Tangipahoa Parish may enact ordinances to 4 enforce the provisions of this Paragraph, which may include provisions requiring the disconnection of water services for failure to timely pay service charges imposed by 5 6 the district. Such ordinances shall provide for the reimbursement of costs incurred 7 in collecting such service charges. 8 (c) Each municipality, parish, water district, or private water company 9 required to collect service charges pursuant to this Paragraph shall be liable for 10 damages suffered by the district as a result of the failure to collect such charges. 11

## **DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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**Abstract:** Requires certain water system operators providing water services within the service area of Sewerage District No. 1 for Tangipahoa Parish to collect service charges imposed by the district.

Present law authorizes any municipal corporation, parish, or sewerage district operating a sewerage system to execute a contract with any municipal corporation, parish, water district, or private water company operating a water system serving customers in the same area. Conversely, also authorizes any municipal corporation, parish, water district, or private water company to execute and enter into a contract with any municipal corporation, parish, or sewerage district providing sewerage service to its same customers.

## Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that such contract may contain terms and privileges as the parties may agree upon. Provides that the contract may state which service charges imposed for services rendered by the sewerage system will be collected for the municipal corporation, parish, or sewerage district by the municipal corporation, parish, water district, or private water company. Provides further that such contract shall include provisions for a procedure to enforce collection of sewer charges by an agreement to shut off the service of the supply of water to any premises delinquent in the payment of either its water charges or sewer charges.

Proposed law retains present law but provides an exception relative to Sewerage District No. 1 for Tangipahoa Parish.

Proposed law requires each municipality, parish, water district, or private water company operating a water system within the service area of Sewerage District No. 1 for Tangipahoa Parish to collect service charges imposed for sewerage services rendered by the district.

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<u>Proposed law</u> authorizes the governing authority of Tangipahoa Parish to enact ordinances to enforce <u>proposed law</u> and to require water services to be disconnected for failure to pay such charges. Requires any such ordinances to provide for the reimbursement of collection costs.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for the liability of the water system operator for damages suffered by the sewerage district resulting from a failure to collect such charges.

(Amends R.S. 33:4169(C))

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Municipal, Parochial</u> and Cultural Affairs to the original bill:

1. Authorize the governing authority of Tangipahoa Parish, rather than the sewerage district, to enact ordinances to enforce proposed law.